Surah 89 Surah Fajr

THE DAWN

THE LINK BETWEEN *SURAH FAJR* AND THE PRECEDING *SURAHS*

Surah Fajr discusses one of the two themes presented in *Surah A'la*, viz. not to be preoccupied with this world. It explains the transitory nature of this world. *Surah Ghaashiya* serves as a conclusion to *Surah A'la*, and Surah Fajr is an extension of one of its themes.

A SUMMARY OF THE *SURAH*

The first five verses of the *Surah* emphasise five specific times when people should pay special attention to supplicate to Allaah and to guard against pursuing this world.

"Have you not seen how your Rabb dealt with the Aad?..." [verse 6]. Here Allaah cites the first example of how people were punished in this very world. The nation of Aad preferred this world to the *Aakhirah,* which led to their destruction. The commodities and wealth that they accumulated in the world were of no use to them. This epic teaches people to exercise abstinence in the world because the glitter of this world eventually entangles one, leading to Allaah's wrath and punishment.

Allaah then cites the second and third examples of this in verses 9 and 10 respectively. Here, Allaah speaks about the destruction of the Thamud and Fir'oun, who were also destroyed by Allaah's punishment when they denied the belief in *Towheed* and *Qiyaamah*.

Verses 15 and 16 condemn man for regarding the material gains of this world to be the criteria for honour and respect. It is evident that this is incorrect because the criteria are piety and obedience to Allaah. In verse 17 20, Allaah censures man for a series of sins, each being worse than the other. The *Surah* then concludes by mentioning the punishment of the *Aakhirah* in verses 21 to 26, followed by glad tidings of salvation in the concluding four verses.

سُوْرَةُ الْفَجْرِ مَكِّيَّةٌ وَّهِيَ ثَلٰثُوْنَ اٰيَةً

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

وَالْفَجْرِ ۙ﴿۱﴾

1. By *(the oath of)* **the dawn!**

وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرٍ ۙ﴿۲﴾

2. By the *(first)* **ten nights** *(of Dhul Hijjah)* **!** *(Rasulullaah ﷺ mentioned that good deeds are more beloved to Allaah during these ten days of Dhul Hijjah than during any other time.)*

وَّالشَّفْعِ وَالْوَتْرِ ۙ﴿۳﴾

3. By the even and the odd *(all of which been created in pairs and with their opposite partners)* **!**

وَالَّيْلِ اِذَا يَسْرِ ۚ﴿۴﴾

4. By the night when it departs!

هَلْ فِيْ ذٰلِكَ قَسَمٌ لِّذِيْ حِجْرٍ ؕ﴿۵﴾

5. Is there not an oath in this for the intelligent? *(Are these oaths not sufficient for the intelligent? These oaths are taken to strengthen the assertion that declares: "Those who adamantly reject the message of Islaam are inviting Allaah's punishment to themselves and will be destroyed just as previous nations were destroyed when they rejected the message of their Ambiyaa عليهم الصلاة والسلام .)*

اَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِعَادٍ ۙ﴿۶﴾

6. Have you not seen how your Rabb dealt with the Aad *(who were destroyed by a terrible windstorm)***...**

اِرَمَ ذَاتِ الْعِمَادِ ۙ﴿۷﴾

7. ...*(who were)* **the people** *(the descendants)* **of** *(a person called)* **Iram and who were people** *(who*

had the stature) **of pillars?**

الَّتِي لَمْ يُخْلَقْ مِثْلُهَا فِي الْبِلَادِ ﴿٨﴾

8. The likes of them *(in size and strength)* **were not created in the lands.**

وَثَمُودَ الَّذِينَ جَابُوا الصَّخْرَ بِالْوَادِ ﴿٩﴾

9. *(Have you not also seen how your Rabb dealt with)* **The Thamud who used to carve the rocks of the valley** *(to make their homes in the mountains)***?**

وَفِرْعَوْنَ ذِي الْأَوْتَادِ ﴿١٠﴾

10. And *(have you not also seen how your Rabb dealt with)* **Fir'oun, the lord of the stakes** *(see verse 12 of Surah 38)***?**

الَّذِينَ طَغَوْا فِي الْبِلَادِ ﴿١١﴾

11. These people transgressed *(the laws of Allaah)* **in the lands...**

فَأَكْثَرُوا فِيهَا الْفَسَادَ ﴿١٢﴾

12. ...and caused tremendous corruption.

فَصَبَّ عَلَيْهِمْ رَبُّكَ سَوْطَ عَذَابٍ ﴿١٣﴾

13. So *(because of this)* **your Rabb rained punishment on them.**

إِنَّ رَبَّكَ لَبِالْمِرْصَادِ ﴿١٤﴾

14. Verily your Rabb is Ever Vigilant *(and nothing escapes His attention)***.**

فَأَمَّا الْإِنسَانُ إِذَا مَا ابْتَلَاهُ رَبُّهُ فَأَكْرَمَهُ وَنَعَّمَهُ فَيَقُولُ رَبِّي أَكْرَمَنِ ﴿١٥﴾

15. As for man, *(instead of learning from the incidents of the past, he takes no heed and)* **when his Rabb tests him** *(to see whether he is grateful to Allaah)* **by granting him honour and favours, he says, "My Rabb has honoured me** *(because I am His chosen one and deserve this)***."** *(Instead of expressing thanks to Allaah and using the wealth and favours in a manner that pleases Allaah, he becomes proud and conceited.)*

وَأَمَّا إِذَا مَا ابْتَلَاهُ فَقَدَرَ عَلَيْهِ رِزْقَهُ فَيَقُولُ رَبِّي أَهَانَنِ ﴿١٦﴾

16. However, when He *(Allaah)* **tests him** *(man)* **by reducing his sustenance** *(to see whether he exercises patience)*, **he says, "My Rabb has disgraced** *(has failed)* **me!"** *(He therefore fails the test by complaining and thereafter flouting Allaah's commands in a desperate effort to acquire some wealth.)*

كَلَّا بَل لَّا تُكْرِمُونَ الْيَتِيمَ ﴿١٧﴾

17. Never! *(A shortage in one's sustenance does not indicate rejection by Allaah, just as an increase in sustenance does not indicate acceptance by Him.)* **Instead,** *(apart from being a test for you, your sustenance is sometimes decreased as a form of punishment because)* **you do not honour the orphan** *(so why must Allaah honour you)*...

وَلَا تَحَاضُّونَ عَلَىٰ طَعَامِ الْمِسْكِينِ ﴿١٨﴾

18. ....do not encourage feeding of the poor...

وَتَأْكُلُونَ التُّرَاثَ أَكْلًا لَّمًّا ﴿١٩﴾

19. ...*(because)* **you devour inheritance** *(of others, especially of women and orphans)* **with relish** *(with a great joy)*...

وَتُحِبُّونَ الْمَالَ حُبًّا جَمًّا ﴿٢٠﴾

20. ...and *(because)* **you love wealth with a very deep love** *(which reduces and eventually destroys your love for Allaah and causes you to commit greater sins)*.

كَلَّا إِذَا دُكَّتِ الْأَرْضُ دَكًّا دَكًّا ﴿٢١﴾

21. Never! *(You should never think that these acts do not warrant Allaah's punishment. They certainly do! If not already meted out in this world, this punishment will definitely arrive on that Day of Qiyaamah)* **When the earth shall be ripped to shreds** *(to be replaced with another earth)*...

وَجَاءَ رَبُّكَ وَالْمَلَكُ صَفًّا صَفًّا ﴿٢٢﴾

22. ...*(the day)* **when your Rabb shall commence proceedings** *(to take reckoning together)* **with the angels** *(who will appear)* **in rows...**

وَجِيءَ يَوْمَئِذٍ بِجَهَنَّمَ يَوْمَئِذٍ يَتَذَكَّرُ الْإِنسَانُ وَأَنَّىٰ لَهُ الذِّكْرَىٰ ﴿٢٣﴾

23. ...and the day when Jahannam will be brought to the fore *(for all to see)*. **On that day man will understand** *(the errors of his ways in this world)*. **But of what use will this understanding be** *(because it will be too late to make amends)*?

يَقُوْلُ يٰلَيْتَنِيْ قَدَّمْتُ لِحَيَاتِيْ ﴿٢٤﴾

24. He *(man)* **will say, "Oh dear! If only I had sent** *(good deeds)* **ahead** *(to earn rewards)* **for my life** *(here in the Aakhirah)* **!"**

فَيَوْمَئِذٍ لَّا يُعَذِّبُ عَذَابَهٗٓ اَحَدٌ ﴿٢٥﴾

25. So on that day, none shall punish like His *(Allaah's)* **punishment...**

وَّلَا يُوْثِقُ وَثَاقَهٗٓ اَحَدٌ ﴿٢٦﴾

26. ...and none shall fasten *(imprison the Kuffaar)* **like He** *(Allaah)* **fastens** *(confines the Kuffaar)*.

يٰٓاَيَّتُهَا النَّفْسُ الْمُطْمَئِنَّةُ ﴿٢٧﴾

27. *(As for the sincere and devout Mu'mineen, Allaah will say to each of them,)* **"O contented soul** *(that has attained peace)* **!"**

ارْجِعِيْٓ اِلٰى رَبِّكِ رَاضِيَةً مَّرْضِيَّةً ﴿٢٨﴾

28. "Return happily *(being pleased with yourself)* **to your Rabb as He is** *(well)* **pleased with you."**

فَادْخُلِيْ فِيْ عِبٰدِيْ ﴿٢٩﴾

29. "Enter among My *(chosen)* **bondsmen..."**

وَادْخُلِيْ جَنَّتِيْ ﴿٣٠﴾ ع ١٤

30....and enter My Jannah."